

34. The method of claim 5 wherein the fluid permeable elastic member includes metallized fabric.

35. The method of claim 5, wherein step (d) includes the step of applying suction to draw the moisture through the tubular member.

36. The method of claim 5 wherein step (b) includes the step of causing the electrode array to conform to the shape of the tissue surface.

37. The method of claim 5 wherein the method further includes the step of (e) monitoring impedance using the electrode array and automatically terminating the flow of current into the tissue once impedance has approximately reached a predetermined level.

38. The method of claim 5 wherein the tissue to be ablated is within an organ, wherein the method further includes the step of measuring the approximate length and width of the organ and wherein step (c) includes the steps of selecting an ablation power corresponding to the measured length and width and delivering the RF energy to the tissue at approximately the selected power.

39. The method of claim 38 wherein the step of measuring the approximate width of the organ includes the step of expanding the flexures to an expanded condition and deriving the approximate width of the uterus from the relative positions of the flexures in the expanded condition.

40. The method of claim 39 wherein step (c) further includes selecting an ablation power which is proportional to the measured length times the measured width.

41. The method of claim 34 wherein the metallized fabric includes yarns of elastic material and yarns of inelastic material.

42. The method of claim 41 wherein the metallized fabric includes yarns of spandex and nylon.

43. The method of claim 5 wherein the array material has elasticity in a transverse direction and in a longitudinal direction and wherein the elasticity in the transverse direction is greater than the elasticity in the longitudinal direction.

44. The method of claim 5 wherein at least one of the flexures includes an electrically conductive region in contact with a conductive region of the electrode array.

45. The method of claim 6 wherein the fluid permeable elastic member includes metallized fabric.

46. The method of claim 6, wherein step (d) includes the step of applying suction to draw the moisture through the tubular member.

47. The method of claim 6 wherein step (b) includes the step of causing the electrode array to conform to the shape of the tissue surface.

48. The method of claim 6 wherein the method further includes the step of (e) monitoring impedance using the electrode array and automatically terminating the flow of current into the tissue once impedance has approximately reached a predetermined level.

49. The method of claim 6 wherein the tissue to be ablated is within an organ, wherein the method further includes the step of measuring the approximate length and width of the organ and wherein step (c) includes the steps of selecting an ablation power corresponding to the measured length and width and delivering the RF energy to the tissue at approximately the selected power.


50. The method of claim 49 wherein the providing step provides the electrode array to be carried by a pair of elongate flexures, and wherein the step of

measuring the approximate width of the organ includes the step of expanding the flexures to an expanded condition and deriving the approximate width of the uterus from the relative positions of the flexures in the expanded condition.

51. The method of claim 50 wherein step (c) further includes selecting an ablation power which is proportional to the measured length times the measured width.

52. The method of claim 45 wherein the metallized fabric includes yarns of elastic material and yarns of inelastic material.


53. The method of claim 52 wherein the metallized fabric includes yarns of spandex and nylon.

 54. The method of claim 6 wherein the array material has elasticity in a transverse direction and in a longitudinal direction and wherein the elasticity in the transverse direction is greater than the elasticity in the longitudinal direction.

55. The method of claim 6 wherein the array is expandable and wherein step (b) further includes the step of moving the array to an expanded condition.

56. The method of claim 55 wherein the array is carried by a pair of elongate flexures and wherein the step of moving the array to the expanded condition includes the step of expanding the flexures.

57. The method of claim 56 wherein at least one of the flexures includes an electrically conductive region in contact with a conductive region of the electrode array.

 58. The method of claim 7 wherein the fluid permeable elastic member includes metallized fabric.

59. The method of claim 7, wherein the step of applying suction further includes applying suction to draw tissue into contact with the electrode array.

60. The method of claim 7 wherein step (b) includes the step of causing the electrode array to conform to the shape of the tissue surface.

61. The method of claim 7 wherein the method further includes the step of (e) monitoring impedance using the electrode array and automatically terminating the flow of current into the tissue once impedance has approximately reached a predetermined level.

62. The method of claim 7 wherein the tissue to be ablated is within an organ, wherein the method further includes the step of measuring the approximate length and width of the organ and wherein step (c) includes the steps of selecting an ablation power corresponding to the measured length and width and delivering the RF energy to the tissue at approximately the selected power.

63. The method of claim 62 wherein the providing step provides the electrode array to be carried by a pair of elongate flexures, and wherein the step of measuring the approximate width of the organ includes the step of expanding the flexures to an expanded condition and deriving the approximate width of the uterus from the relative positions of the flexures in the expanded condition.

64. The method of claim 63 wherein step (c) further includes selecting an ablation power which is proportional to the measured length times the measured width.

65. The method of claim 58 wherein the metallized fabric includes yarns of elastic material and yarns of inelastic material.

66. The method of claim 65 wherein the metallized fabric includes yarns of spandex and nylon.

67. The method of claim 7 wherein the array material has elasticity in a transverse direction and in a longitudinal direction and wherein the elasticity in the transverse direction is greater than the elasticity in the longitudinal direction.

68. The method of claim 7 wherein the array is expandable and wherein step (b) further includes the step of moving the array to an expanded condition.

69. The method of claim 68 wherein the array is carried by a pair of elongate flexures and wherein the step of moving the array to the expanded condition includes the step of expanding the flexures.

70. The method of claim 69 wherein at least one of the flexures includes an electrically conductive region in contact with a conductive region of the electrode array.

71. The method of claim 15 wherein the fluid permeable elastic member includes metallized fabric.

72. The method of claim 15, wherein step (d) includes the step of applying suction to draw the moisture through the tubular member.

73. The method of claim 15 wherein step (b) includes the step of causing the electrode array to conform to the shape of the tissue surface.

74. The method of claim 15 wherein the method further includes the step of (e) monitoring impedance using the electrode array and automatically terminating the flow of current into the tissue once impedance has approximately reached a predetermined level.

75. The method of claim 15 wherein the tissue to be ablated is within an organ, wherein the method further includes the step of measuring the approximate length and width of the organ and wherein step (c) includes the steps of selecting an ablation power corresponding to the measured length and width and delivering the RF energy to the tissue at approximately the selected power.

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76. The method of claim 15 wherein the step of measuring the approximate width of the organ includes the step of expanding the flexures to an expanded condition and deriving the approximate width of the uterus from the relative positions of the flexures in the expanded condition.

77. The method of claim 15 wherein step (c) further includes selecting an ablation power which is proportional to the measured length times the measured width.

78. The method of claim 71 wherein the metallized fabric includes yarns of elastic material and yarns of inelastic material.

79. The method of claim 78 wherein the metallized fabric includes yarns of spandex and nylon.

80. The method of claim 15 wherein the array material has elasticity in a transverse direction and in a longitudinal direction and wherein the elasticity in the transverse direction is greater than the elasticity in the longitudinal direction.

81. The method of claim 15 wherein the array is expandable and wherein step (b) further includes the step of moving the array to an expanded condition.

82. The method of claim 81 wherein the array is carried by a pair of elongate flexures and wherein the step of moving the array to the expanded condition includes the step of expanding the flexures.

83. The method of claim 15 wherein at least one of the flexures includes an electrically conductive region in contact with a conductive region of the electrode array.

84. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the fluid permeable elastic member includes metallized fabric.

85. The apparatus of claim 84 wherein the metallized fabric includes yarns of elastic material and yarns of inelastic material.

86. The apparatus of claim 84 wherein the metallized fabric includes yarns of spandex and nylon.

87. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the array has elasticity in a transverse direction and in a longitudinal direction and wherein the elasticity in the transverse direction is greater than the elasticity in the longitudinal direction.

88. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the electrode array is carried by a deflecting mechanism moveable between a retracted position and an expanded position.

89. The apparatus of claim 88 wherein the deflecting mechanism includes a pair of elongate flexures.

90. The apparatus of claim 88 wherein the deflecting mechanism includes electrically conductive regions electrically coupled to conductive regions of the electrode array.

91. The apparatus of claim 89 wherein the flexures include electrically conductive regions electrically coupled to conductive regions of the electrode array.

92. The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising:
width measurement means for measuring the approximate width of the organ.

93. The apparatus of claim 92 further comprising:
length measurement means for measuring the approximate length of the organ.

94. The apparatus of claim 92 further comprising means for determining an ablation power using the measured approximate width.
95. The apparatus of claim 93 further comprising means for determining an ablation power using the measured approximate width and length.
96. The apparatus of claim 92, wherein the measurement means includes a pair of elongate flexures, the flexures carrying the electrode array.
97. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the fluid permeable elastic member includes metallized fabric.
98. The apparatus of claim 97 wherein the metallized fabric includes yarns of elastic material and yarns of inelastic material.
99. The apparatus of claim 97 wherein the metallized fabric includes yarns of spandex and nylon.
100. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the array has elasticity in a transverse direction and in a longitudinal direction and wherein the elasticity in the transverse direction is greater than the elasticity in the longitudinal direction.
102. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the deflecting mechanism includes electrically conductive regions electrically coupled to conductive regions of the electrode array.
103. The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the flexures include electrically conductive regions electrically coupled to conductive regions of the electrode array.
104. The apparatus of claim 24 further comprising:
width measurement means for measuring the approximate width of the organ.